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PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

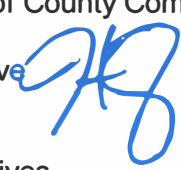
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REPORT NO. 2016-15

TO: The Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Hector Collazo, Inspector General/Chief Audit Executive 
Division of Inspector General

DIST: Jacob Stowers, Director, Strategic Planning and Initiatives
Renea Vincent, Director, Planning
Glenn Bailey, Zoning Manager

SUBJECT: Investigation of the Local Planning Agency (LPA)

DATE: July 22, 2016

The Division of Inspector General's Public Integrity Unit (PIU) received allegations of Fraud, Waste, and Abuse. We investigated the following allegation related to the proposal and application by C-1 Bank submitted to the LPA.

The complainant alleged that the respondent fast tracked the approval process and did not disclose all of the records from a Public Records request.

The complainant did provide documentation to assist with the investigation.

To determine whether the allegations were substantiated, we reviewed policies, procedures, and any other records deemed appropriate. We also conducted interviews of staff and other parties, as needed. Our investigation was performed according to the *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General* and *The Florida Inspectors General Standards Manual* from The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

The Division of Inspector General's investigation of the allegations has determined that the allegations noted above were *unsubstantiated*.

We determined through our investigation that there was no fast tracking of C-1 Bank's application process through the LPA. The LPA ultimately agreed with the local residents' request and voted against C-1 Bank's proposal. The Board of County Commissioners is expected to vote on the proposal on August 23, 2016.

Additionally, through our investigation, it was determined that the public records related to C-1 Bank's proposal and application were appropriately disclosed and proper procedures were adhered to.



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